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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Item 10 (a) of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the international drug control treaties: challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations

United States of America: draft resolution

Enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolution 56/4 of 15 March 2013, on enhancing international cooperation in the identification of, collection of information on and reporting of new psychoactive substances to better understand the threat,

Also recalling its resolution 55/1 of 16 March 2012, on promoting international cooperation in responding to the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances,

Recognizing the continued and escalating threat to public health and safety posed by the spread of potentially dangerous new psychoactive substances not under international control that are marketed as legal products and that have led to increased abuse and overdoses, as evidenced by hospital admissions and deaths,

Acknowledging the increased speed at which the market has developed, resulting in the wide availability and accessibility, including through the Internet, of new psychoactive substances,

Noting the importance of a balanced, comprehensive and integrated approach to tackle the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances,

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Highlighting progress that has been achieved in identifying, monitoring and reporting on a large number of new psychoactive substances, including through the work of national authorities, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through its global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme and the early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances, and regional organizations such as the European Union, through the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction,

Bearing in mind the shared responsibility for developing comprehensive, coordinated and integrated approaches to the detection, analysis and identification of new psychoactive substances as part of a balanced approach to drug policy that seeks both to reduce demand and to restrict supply,

Highlighting the continued need to collect and share information on the risks to individual and public health posed by new psychoactive substances, using, where appropriate, existing national and regional data-collection and information exchange systems,

Underscoring the importance of collecting and sharing information on pharmacological data and research relating to new psychoactive substances, as well as information on the prevalence of new psychoactive substances as a basis for evidence-based measures,

Reaffirming the roles, under the United Nations drug control conventions, of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the process of limiting narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to medical and scientific uses, and the role of the International Narcotics Control Board, in cooperation with Governments, in ensuring the availability of adequate amounts of narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes,

Welcoming the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012,[1] in which the Board raised awareness of the dangers of new psychoactive substances by identifying the problem as a special topic and making recommendations to Governments concerning scheduling,

Acknowledging the efforts of the World Health Organization to develop an agenda and timetable to move forward with the review of substances, including new psychoactive substances,

Recognizing the continued value to Member States of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme and its international collaborative exercises for national drug testing laboratories, including, where appropriate, through the use of existing national and regional early warning systems and networks,

Recalling its resolution 48/11 of 11 March 2005, in which it urged all States and relevant international organizations to cooperate closely with the initiatives of the International Narcotics Control Board, and recognizing that activities under such initiatives can result in the development of live intelligence-led investigations by national law enforcement authorities,

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[1] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1).

Welcoming the declaration adopted on 4 December 2013 at the joint International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime conference on precursors control in Asia, held in Bangkok, in which Member States expressed their commitment to practical steps to counter the trafficking of new psychoactive substances,

Also welcoming the establishment by the International Narcotics Control Board of Project ION, an international operational initiative, under the direction of the Board's task force on new psychoactive substances, to support law enforcement and regulatory agencies in their efforts to prevent new non-scheduled psychoactive substances from reaching consumer markets,

Further welcoming the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *The Challenge of New Psychoactive Substances*, published in March 2013, which provides a comprehensive overview of the nature and magnitude of the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances,

1. *Urges* Member States and relevant organizations to continue collecting data, as requested in its resolution 55/1, on new psychoactive substances and the threats they pose to public health and safety and to share data on the impact of the abuse of new psychoactive substances on the prevention and treatment of and care and support relating to infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

2. *Urges* Member States to share, where appropriate, best practices on demand reduction measures and treatment guidelines and evidence-based treatment practices, including information on the profile of users, patterns of use and settings, in order to better develop prevention, rehabilitation and treatment strategies;

3. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate on the development of multifaceted prevention strategies that are appropriate for various audiences and that provide information on the potential adverse effects and risks to public health and safety of new psychoactive substances;

4. *Recommends* that Member States exchange ideas, best practices and experiences in adopting effective responses to address the unique challenges posed by new psychoactive substances, which may include national and regional responses, new and existing legislation, regulation or other restrictions, enforcement initiatives, and prevention, demand reduction and treatment strategies;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to incorporate a focus on new psychoactive substances in its demand reduction, prevention and treatment programmes, as appropriate, and to support capacity-building in developing countries, as needed, for improved surveillance and response, in particular regarding new psychoactive substances;

6. *Urges* Member States to use and follow the drug scheduling processes of the international drug control conventions, including by providing the World Health Organization with timely information and identifying a national government focal point to coordinate the provision of information on substances for effective review by the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence;

7. *Encourages* Member States to consider the provisional application of control measures as established under the international drug control conventions to

strengthen domestic regulatory controls, particularly regarding new psychoactive substances with no known medical, scientific or industrial purposes;

8. *Invites* the World Health Organization to consider reviewing new psychoactive substances with similar chemical structures, particularly those substances with no known medical, scientific or industrial purposes, on an accelerated timetable that is sequenced effectively with the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to maximize the efficiency of reviews and minimize the time needed to apply international controls under the drug control conventions;

9. *Urges* Member States to support activities under the International Narcotics Control Board task force on new psychoactive substances by naming a government focal point for International Narcotics Control Board communications, to promote the exchange of those communications with all relevant authorities, to participate in relevant time-bound initiatives of that task force targeting major organizations involved in the suspicious shipment of new psychoactive substances and to support the development of a system to communicate on suspicious shipments or related incidents involving new psychoactive substances or substances suspected to be new psychoactive substances;

10. *Urges* Member States and regional organizations to collect information on new psychoactive substances, as requested in in its resolution 55/1, and to provide such data, particularly on seizures, abuse, forensics and current domestic legislation, for use in existing mechanisms such as the annual report questionnaire, the database on individual seizures and the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme early warning advisory, as well as to consider using such information as the basis for direct national notifications to the World Health Organization for consideration by the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence in order to maximize efficiency and minimize review time under the international drug control conventions;

11. *Encourages* the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme to share relevant information with the World Health Organization in advance of meetings of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence to facilitate its effective review of substances and to consider using such information as the basis for direct national notifications to the World Health Organization for consideration by the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence;

12. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United Nations.